

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the office action dated September 12, 2007.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee, U.S. Patent No. 6,507,366 in view of Loveland, U.S. Patent No. 6,437,819. Independent claim 1, from which the remaining claims each respectively depend, has been amended to recite the limitations of “automatically increasing magnification of an image in response to initiating said object tracking system free from further user input while said object tracking system is activated” and “receiving a user selection of an object of interest in said image while said object tracking system is activated and said while said image is being automatically increased in magnification.” These limitations are not disclosed by either cited prior art reference.

The Examiner asserts that Lee discloses automatically magnifying an image, without further user interaction, after the tracking system is activated. In actuality, Lee merely discloses that, as part of the tracking initialization process, the lens focus and magnification should be automatically set to the minimum focal distance. Lee does not disclose that this process *increases* the magnification factor of the lens. Lee discloses no other automatic process that might possibly increase the magnification of the lens. Moreover, Lee discloses that the automatic adjustment of the focal length of the lens is a part of the *initialization* process, hence cannot disclose the limitation of an object of interest being selected “while said image is being automatically increased in magnification.” In fact, the applicant can find no disclosure in the primary reference of receiving a “user selection” of an object of interest to be tracked. Therefore, each of claims 1-20 patentably distinguishes over the cited combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-20.

Respectfully submitted,



Kurt Rohlf
Reg. No. 54,405
Tel No.: (503) 227-5631